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Dulles To Be Succeeded By?

ALLEN W. DULLES, head of the Central Intelligence Agency, will retire in a few months. This the White House confirms.

There have been printed reports that Fowler Hamilton, a New York lawyer, would take his place. This the White House does not confirm.

At the moment, then, the successor to Dulles is officially in doubt. It probably would be impossible in our system of Government, but it wouldn't be a bad idea if the new boss of the CIA continued to be unknown, whoever he turns out to be. At least, because of the nature of his job, he ought to live and work in obscurity.

For one reason or another, the Central Intelligence Agency, created in 1947, has been well advertised here and abroad.

ITS NEW \$46,000,000 palace, in Virginia near Washington, has become a tourist attraction, even if no tourists can get in.

There is no evidence that any of this advertising has been an asset, either to the CIA's task, or to our foreign relations in general.

The less seen and heard of this outfit the better.

This is not to say there should be no check on it. Somebody ought to know what's going on. The Hoover Commission several years ago recommended a special committee of Congress, similar to the Joint Congressional Atomic Energy Committee, which has functioned well. The suggested close-mouthed Joint Committee would exercise surveillance not only over the CIA but all our intelligence agencies, mainly as an assurance of trustworthiness.

We hope the new man will reverse Dulles' opposition to this Joint Committee, and also that he publicly will remain as much as possible what he is at this moment—a big question mark.

This editorial also appeared in the following other newspapers:

Cincinnati Post & Times-Star
 Indianapolis Times
 Pittsburgh Press

Wash Daily News Aug 11, 1961